# Office of General Services – Real Property Management Recycled Commodities and Waste Streams Overview

# The Office of General Services Solid Waste Management Program

New York State Office of General Services ("OGS") provides essential services to other State agencies and authorities, local governments, as well as the general public. OGS operates buildings, manages and leases real property, designs and builds facilities, establishes procurement contracts for goods, services, and technology, and delivers a wide array of support services. OGS is truly a diverse organization; it even conducts tours of the Capitol and maintains the Plaza art collection. While OGS's services may be "general," many state agencies depend on OGS to fulfill their own mission and goals. Therefore, OGS is always seeking to find new ways to serve its customers, streamline its processes, and build public trust.

The OGS Solid Waste Management program, also known as the 3R's (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) program, is OGS Real Property Management's response to the requirements of Section 165(3) of the State Finance Law and is consistent with Executive Order 4 (EO 4), which calls for the implementation of a comprehensive and environmentally-sound Solid Waste Management Program by all State agencies with reporting requirements beginning in FY2008-09. The program is aimed at reducing the demand for valuable landfill space by efficiently collecting and marketing recyclable waste produced in all 48 OGS-managed facilities, which contain over 20 million square feet of office space. The OGS 3R's program has significantly reduced the volume of waste sent to landfills and is one of the keys to achieving sustainable State operations.

# **General Description of Data**

Office of General Services' (OGS) Recycled Commodities dataset is a breakdown of the tonnage of recycled commodities by each commodity recycled by fiscal year in 48 OGS operated facilities statewide. Commodities listed include mixed office paper; corrugated cardboard; ferrous/non-ferrous scrap metal; single stream recyclables; comingled materials; electronic equipment; fluorescent bulbs and ballasts; concrete; stone; asphalt; and yard waste. Interested persons will be able to obtain the tonnage recycled of all materials listed above by OGS for each fiscal year.

#### **Data Collection Methodology**

Data for the OGS Recycled Commodities dataset is gathered by OGS building management and entered into the Asset Works tracking system after any waste or recyclables leave the facility to be disposed of. Recycling and waste haulers will give weight slips to building management which will then in turn be entered into the Asset Works system. Upon the completion of each fiscal year data is then compiled into an Annual Waste Report highlighting all recycling and waste disposal efforts and initiatives in OGS operated facilities by Solid Waste Management Program staff.

# **Statistical and Analytic Issues**

N/A

### **Limitations of Data Use**

A minor amount of the data entered into Asset Works system is based on weight estimates and not weight slips. Some recycling and waste removal vendors in OGS regional facilities do not have scales to weigh the materials leaving the facility. The estimate is based on the average weight by cubic yard of the material being disposed of or recycled. Average weights of the material being recycled are assigned by the OGS Solid Waste Management Program.